

Montana Mental Health Nursing Care Center

800 Casino Creek Drive
Lewistown, MT 59457

Post-Mortem Care

Be Respectful:

Remember, this is the resident's and family's last experience with our facility, so make it a professional and compassionate one.

Gather your supplies before entering the room; 10 ml syringe if needed to remove Foley catheter; clean linens; clean hospital gown; was cloths; towels; garbage bags; etc.

- Ask the family to leave the room if present and let them know approximately what time you will be done, so, they may come back.
- Bathe soiled areas with plain water, place clean attend, and clean hospital gown on.
- Be a second set of eyes for your nurse; ensure the Foley catheter was removed and any topical medication patches.
- Ensure linens are clean and change if necessary.
- Place body on back with head and shoulders on pillow.
- Straighten arms and legs.
- Cover body with a top sheet, folded back at the shoulders to allow viewing of face/head.
- Close eyes, may need to push eyelids down over eyes.
- Place clean dentures in mouth, attempt to close the mouth, and glasses on face (if not being cremated).
- Remove all soiled linens, empty garbage cans, and tidy room before leaving.
- Allow family to come back in, offer refreshments if not already provided.
- Attempt to keep the area relatively quiet for the family's sake.